

In the Claims:

1. A system for providing critical data in a hard drive, comprising:
a rotatable medium capable of storing information written to the rotatable medium;
a read element capable of reading information from the rotatable medium; and
a control mechanism adapted to receive data from and transmit data to a host device,
control the rotatable medium, and position the read element over the rotatable medium, the
control mechanism configured to:
 - receive a signal indicating a critical event has occurred;
 - receive critical data read from the rotatable medium by the read element;
 - receive a critical data request signal from the host device; and
 - provide the critical data to the host device.
2. The system of 1 wherein the critical event is host boot-up.
3. The system of 2 wherein receive critical data includes:
receive critical data associated with hard drive boot-up.
4. The system of 1 wherein receive critical data includes:
access a critical data location information from a FLASH;
receive the critical data, the location of the critical data on the rotatable medium derived
from the critical data location information.
5. The system of 1 further comprising:

a processor configured to identify the critical data likely to be requested.

6. The system of 5, wherein identify the critical data includes:
record past data requests associated with past occurrences of the critical event; and
identify the critical data from the past data requests.
7. The system of 6 wherein identify the critical data from the past data requests includes:
identify the critical data to be a data requested in the most recent past data request.
8. The system of 6 wherein identifying the critical data from the past data requests includes:
identifying the critical data to be a data most often requested in the past data requests.
9. The system of 5, wherein identifying the critical data further includes:
receiving a vendor unique command from the host device; and
identifying the critical data to be data specified in the vendor unique command.